

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

MAYOR BOB KISS

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“BACK TO SCHOOL” AFTER A BUSY SUMMER FOR SCHOOLS

August is now winding down with the beginning of the school year—the week of August 30—just around the corner. Despite the break, the summer months have been filled with activity for the school department. The district is implementing an ambitious and important series of construction projects across several school buildings which will address life-safety, accessibility, and energy issues while creating a better learning environment for children.

It's worth noting and appreciating the scope of construction taken on by the school district this summer. The projects include updated fire alarm systems at CP Smith, the Sustainability Academy at Barnes, and Edmunds, and new sprinklers at CP Smith, the Sustainability Academy at Barnes, and Hunt Middle School. Substantial energy efficiency and renewable energy enhancements will be made at several schools, along with two new science labs and an upgraded auditorium at BHS. The Integrated Arts Academy at Wheeler will have pervious concrete installed in part of its parking lot by DPW, as a pilot program for all the schools. Especially noteworthy, Edmunds Elementary is having an elevator installed that will access all its floors, expected to be complete by October.

The extent of the work has resulted in the temporary relocation of students at CP Smith and the Sustainability Academy to other sites at the beginning of the school year.

While the construction has proceeded over the summer, the District has continued to provide academic and supportive services to

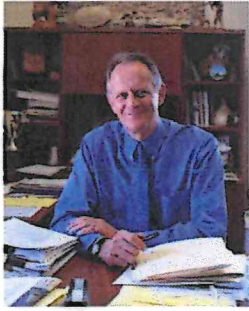
hundreds of Burlington schoolchildren. Together with the Parks and Recreation Department and non-profit partners in the community such as the King Street Youth Center, Sara Holbrook Center, New North End Youth Center, the Y, and Boys and Girls Club, children and families in Burlington have robust, diverse, and critical summer program options.

The much-needed construction work would not be possible without the support of Burlington voters, elected officials, and many others who have worked and advocated for the necessary resources to address school needs. It's an investment in Burlington's children which will provide immeasurable value now and years into the future. For more information about the school construction projects, go to: www.bsdt.org.



Work Progresses at Edmunds School Complex

FROM MAYOR KISS



Infrastructure Investment

As described on the front of this newsletter, Burlington's schools are undergoing a major construction effort. At the same time, the City's Department of Public Works has been managing the largest street-paving program in the City's history.

While I appreciate that this has resulted in temporary inconvenience in getting around Burlington and some temporary school changes at the start of the school year,

the long-term benefit of this kind of investment is invaluable.

This is not just an investment in the "physical plant" of the City and schools. It's an investment in people, children and families, community, and economic vitality. As many communities across the country continue to be faced with economic pressures and challenges, Burlington is one of the few in a position to make these investments. Even as we work to address the challenges facing Burlington Telecom, its fiber to the home system is a critical piece of infrastructure that gives Burlington a head start compared to other cities.

Burlington voters, elected and appointed

officials, City government and the school district have had the foresight to support investments like these, and not deferred costs and hard decisions today at the expense of the future.

Champlain Parkway

The Champlain Parkway, another project that I believe is important to Burlington's future, continues to move forward. After a series of public informational meetings, the City is reviewing public feedback and questions prior to submitting an ACT 250 application for the project, which would be the final step before proceeding to construction.

Formerly known as the Southern Connector, this federally-funded project

will construct and rehabilitate approximately 2.4 miles of roadway, pedestrian, and bicycle facilities commencing at the interchange of I-189 with US 7 in the City of South Burlington and extending westerly and northerly to the intersection of Pine Street with Main Street within the City of Burlington's City Center District. A project update can be found at: <http://www.ci.burlington.vt.us/docs/2456.pdf>. Progress will continue on this important project for the City.

With best regards,

Bob Kiss, Mayor

Contact Mayor Kiss at: mayor@ci.burlington.vt.us or www.ci.burlington.vt.us/mayor

THE AIRPORT TURNS 90!

The Burlington International Airport is observing its 90th year in operation this year. Starting from a grass landing strip in 1920, BTV now sees 1.5 million passengers per year and is a vital and essential aspect of Burlington's, the region's, and the state's economy.

A tremendous amount of work by many people over the years and in the present has made the Airport

the success it is today. Those efforts haven't flagged. Among other things, this year the Airport commenced a major expansion project on its parking garage which will allow it to meet demand and enhance services.

In conjunction with its 90th Anniversary, a book titled Burlington International Airport, A History 1920-2010 has been published that chronicles the development of the

airport. More information about this publication is available at: www.btv.aero. Congratulations BTV!



Burlington International Airport, 1934